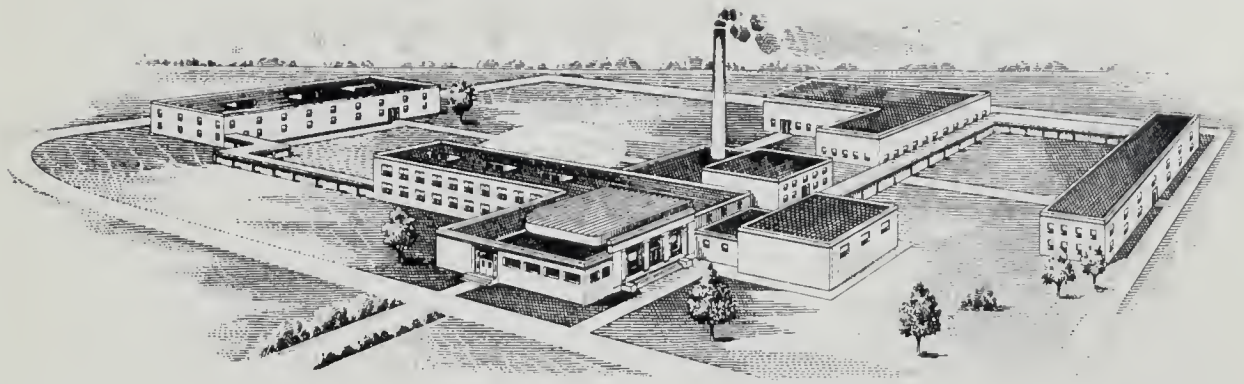
Mississippi School For the Blind

1252 EASTOVER DRIVE
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

FOUNDED 1848



BIENNIAL REPORT

of the

Mississippi School For the Blind

TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE

FOR THE BIENNIUM

July 1, 1959 — June 30, 1961

GOVERNOR

ROSS R. BARNETT

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert Gandy, Chairman	Jackson, Mississippi
Miss Helen Crooks, Secretary	Meridian, Mississippi
Mrs. L. L. Brown	Kosciusko, Mississippi
Mrs. C. S. Weir	Jackson, Mississippi
James A. Blount	Charleston, Mississippi
J. M. Tubb	Jackson, Mississippi
J. E. McMullan	Newton, Mississippi

FACULTY AND STAFF

White School

Superintendent	Carl S. Wilson
Business Manager and Physical Education	O. Walton Stewart
Secretary and Commercial Teacher	Miss Annetta Ray
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. Claude Smith
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. C. B. Holcombe
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. Charlie J. McCann
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. Carl H. Nowell
Elementary Teacher	Miss Peggy Wells
Elementary Teacher	Miss Edith Alexander
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. W. H. Pickens
Elementary and Orchestra Teacher	Mrs. E. E. Allen
Elementary and Crafts Teacher	Mrs. Douglas LaPrade
Junior High Teacher	Mrs. Guy H. Bumpas
Junior-Senior High and Physical Education	Mrs. Kenneth Agent
English, History, and Librarian	Mrs. Clinton Van Devender
Homemaking and Science	Mrs. Eric Turner
Vocational and Shop	Carl H. Nowell
Piano Tuning and Repair (Part-time)	W. D. Caffey
Primary Music Teacher	Miss Marina Alexander
Vocal and Advanced Piano	Claude Smith, Jr.
Hostess and Teacher	Mrs. Austin S. Valiquette
Housemother, Girls' Dormitory	Mrs. Thelma Curtis
Housemother, Boys' Dormitory	Mrs. Pearl F. Dean
Dietitian	Mrs. Elma Calhoun
Maintenance	Austin S. Valiquette
Assistant Maintenance Men	
Cooks, Maids, and Janitors	

NEGRO SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Faculty and Staff

Principal and Teacher	Mrs. Martha Foxx
Teacher	Ernestine Archie
Teacher	Henrietta Black
Teacher	Myrtis L. Jones
Teacher	Annie Lee Norman
Teacher	Jonas Brown
Teacher	Lennie Ross
Teacher	Carrie Lee Slater
Teacher	Rudolph Jackson
Teacher	Estella Nichols
Teacher (part-time)	Charles W. Saulsbury
Housemother	Willie Mae Barlow
Housemother	Elizabeth Bennett
Maintenance and Grounds	Fair Johnson
Cooks, Maids, and Janitor	

The Mississippi School for the Blind is an educational institution. Although it is the home of the boarding students for nine months of the year, it is not a place for custodial care of blind children.

The aims of the school are to impart knowledge, teach skills, develop personality and Christian character, and to prepare boys and girls to become well-rounded, happily-adjusted men and women.

The course of study and requirements for graduation parallel those of the public schools of the state and meet requirements of the State Accrediting Commission.

The Daily Schedule for classwork is from 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p. m. Other time is used for study, hobbies, athletics, clubs, etc.

The Mississippi School for the Blind has a literary department of twelve grades. Both the elementary and secondary schools have an "A" rating, which was given by the Mississippi Accrediting Commission.

Teachers at the School for the Blind must meet all requirements of the public school teachers. They are requested to take child psychology, Braille, methods of teaching slow learners, methods of teaching the blind, and the psychology of blindness.

A SHORT HISTORY

The Mississippi Institute for the Blind was established by the Mississippi Legislature in 1848. The school was located on North Jefferson Street in Jackson, Mississippi. The Institute for the Blind was later changed to the Mississippi School for the Blind. The school remained on Jefferson Street until the session of 1864-65, when it was moved to Monticello, Mississippi, during the later part of The War Between the States. It was moved back to North Jefferson Street after the War and continued to operate at this location until 1882, when a new school was constructed on North State Street on 14 acres of land purchased by the trustees of the School for the Blind from a gift of William C. Johnson. The school remained at North State Street until 1951 when a more modern school plant was constructed on new Highway 51 North at Eastover Drive for the white blind children. Until this time the Negro blind children had been in school at Piney Woods Farm Life School. They were transferred to a new Negro School for the Blind on Capers and Green Avenue in West Jackson. In 1946 the Mississippi Legislature made an appropriation of $2,400,000 with which to build and renovate schools for the blind and the deaf.

Since the University of Mississippi and the Mississippi Institute for the Blind were established the same year, both were operated by the same board of trustees for many years. Later a board of five members was appointed by the governor of the state and approved by the State Senate for the operation of the School for the Blind and the School for the Deaf.

From 1932 to 1936 the Mississippi School for the Blind was operated by the Board of Eleemasynary Institutions. In 1936 the Legislature enacted a law which empowered the Governor to appoint a three-member board to operate the schools for the blind and the deaf. In 1944 the Mississippi Legislature recognized the Schools for the Blind and Deaf and made provisions for a board of seven members to be appointed by the governor for periods of one to seven years and then to appoint one member each year thereafter to serve a full seven-year term.

ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS

A student shall not be admitted to or continue as a pupil in the School for the Blind whose acuity of vision is, or becomes, habitually greater than fifty per cent of normal vision.

Children under the age of six (6) years shall not be admitted to the State School for the Blind.

No person shall be admitted who is not a bona fide resident of the State or who is not of good moral character.

A licensed physician examines the eyes of the children and makes a report to the superintendent of the school. If this examination is satisfactory in that it shows that the child meets the visual requirements, the superintendent then visits the home of the child, making plans with the parents.

A student must have sufficient intelligence to profit by the instruction at the school, and his physical condition must not prevent him from the study of Braille. The superintendent accepts reports from licensed physicians, a phychologist of the State Welfare Department, the State Health Department, or a psychiatrist of the State Medical School.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The school is located on U. S. Highway 51 North at Eastover Drive in the city of Jackson, Mississippi. The mailing address is: 1252 Eastover Drive, Jackson 6, Mississippi.

The school furnishes ordinary medical care for all the students. Emergency dental work, treatments, and yearly checkups are provided by the school. Chest X-rays and immunizations are provided each year through the State Department of Health. Parents and guardians are kept well informed as to the condition of their girls and boys; and, in case of serious illness, they are notified by telephone or telegraph immediately.

Housemothers are employed to supervise the children during the hours when they are not in the classrooms. The administration strives to duplicate as far as possible the home environment.

A dietitian and staff are employed to provide well-balanced meals. They prepare foods suitable for growing boys and girls with the foremost thought that a blind boy or girl needs a healthy body nurtured by good foods.

Responsibility of Parents

Parents or guardians are asked to:

1. Provide transportation to and from school.
2. Provide adequate clothing, plainly marked with full name of student.
3. Provide personal essentials, such as toilet articles, and enough money for haircuts, etc.
4. Advise the Superintendent at once whenever there is a contagious disease in the student's home in order that proper precautions can be taken.
5. Correspond with the girls and boys, taking them home for week-end visits other than those scheduled, and visiting them at school as long as such visits do not hinder the educational progress of the student.

Enrollments

The School for the Blind had 51 students in September, 1944. The white school enrolled 88 for the 1959-60 session and 99 during the 1960-61 session. The total enrollment at the Negro School for the Blind was 72 for the 1959-60 school year and 80 for the 1960-61 session. The total enrollment last session in the Mississippi Schools for the Blind was 179, more than triple the enrollment of 1944. The staff of teachers and other school personnel has doubled the staffs of 1944.

The operation of the school costs approximately $200 more per student than it cost in 1944-45; and, in view of the skyrocketing of costs in all fields, it is believed that this amount is as small an increase percentage-wise as any to be found in an institution in Mississippi.

Superintendent

Since coming to the Mississippi School for the Blind on September 1, 1960, my relationship and work with the students and staff members have been both enjoyable and rewarding.

There are untold possibilities for the future here, and there are many responsibilities which the people of Mississippi must and will meet.

Although facilities and accommodations at the school for white children are fairly adequate, there is an urgent need for a dormitory for small boys. There are from three to six boys in each room at present. The smallest boys should not be housed in the same dormitory with grown boys. The girls are adequately accommodated in the building.

At the Negro school all students are now living in one dormitory—girls on the first floor and boys on the second floor. However, crowded conditions will be relieved before the end of the 1961-62 session, when the girls will move into the new dormitory which is now under construction. New quarters for homemaking, crafts, and shop departments will also be provided in the new facility.

Respectfully,

Carl S. Wilson, Superintendent

"Front Office"

Graduates of the Class of 1961
Jean Hudgens Jimmy Moore

Mr. and Miss MSB 1960-61
Frank Busby Becky Floyd

The library with many books in Braille and Talking Books

Braille Writing

Music Is Rich In Rewards

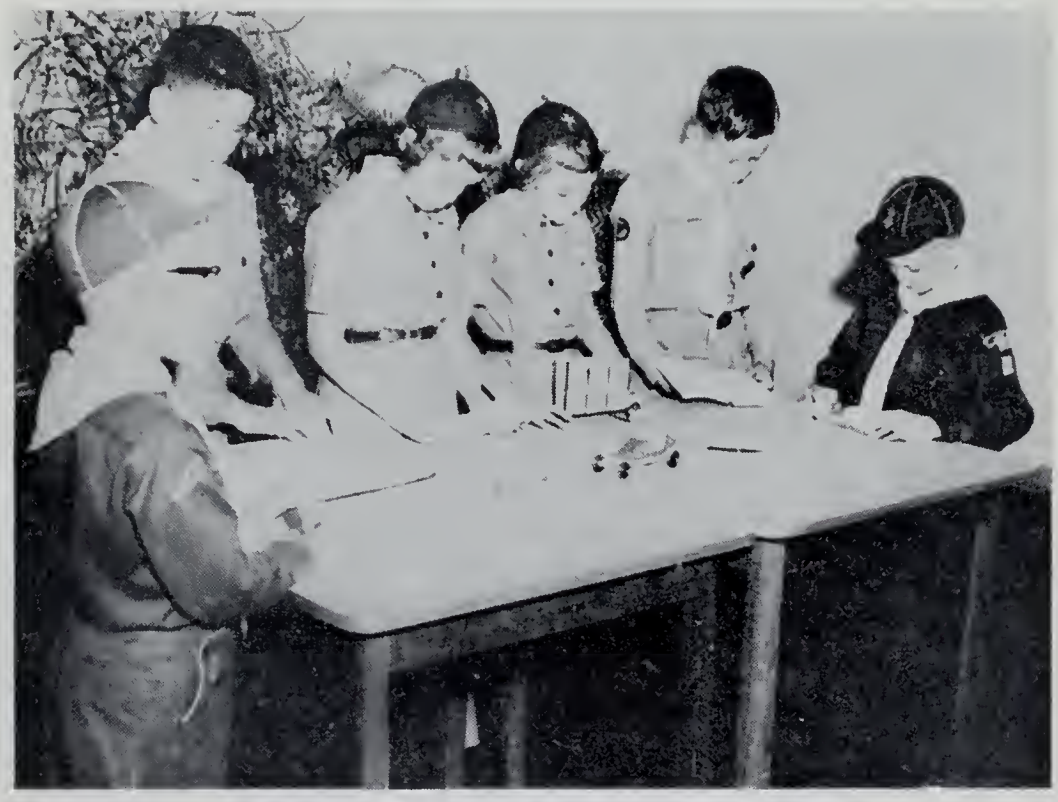
TACTICAL DEVICES IN EVERY FIELD
(Where fingers must substitute for eyes)

RECREATIONS AND SPORTS

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

FLOAT IN CHRISTMAS PARADE

SCOUTING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS



COMFORTABLE DORMITORY ACCOMMODATIONS

DINING ROOM

ENROLLMENT

July 1, 1959 to June 30, 1961

White

Arnold, Billy Wayne	Adams
Thornhill, Airon Huedean	Adams
Melton, Jerry Wayne	Calhoun
Melton, Joe Willie	Calhoun
Harrison, James Aubry	Chickasaw
Trussell, Roy Wayne	Choctaw
Heller, James Robert	Clay
Turner, Harvey Joe	Clay
Hawthorne, Jan	Coahoma
Hudgens, Jean Elizabeth	Coahoma
Carter, Aline	Forest
Jaggers, Susan	Forest
Walker, Diane	George
Flynn, Jerry	Greene
Barrett, Pshon	Grenada
Brashears, Edward	Harrison
Brashears, Jerry	Harrison
Cowart, Ernest	Harrison
Cowart, Harold	Harrison
Kennerson, Benny	Harrison
King, John Eddie	Harrison
Roberts, Kay	Harrison
Turnage, Jimmy Wayne	Harrison
Turnage, Roy Barry	Harrison
Voss, Carl William, Jr.	Harrison
Banke, William	Hinds
Benson, Kerry Donald	Hinds
Bounds, Janis	Hinds
Bounds, Linda	Hinds
Crane, Gerald Max	Hinds
Davis, Virginia	Hinds
Dorsey, Larry	Hinds
Gayle, Janet Marie	Hinds
Green, Allen	Hinds
Ferrell, Tony	Hinds
Harris, Harold	Hinds
Hughey, Sammy, Jr.	Hinds
Mims, Deborah	Hinds
Myers, Louise Aileen	Hinds
McGaugh, Donald Hugh	Hinds
McMillan, Len Ray	Hinds
Neely, Arthur Dennis	Hinds
Powers, Dorothy Louise	Hinds
Sarles, Richard	Hinds
Tucker, John	Hinds

Wade, Judy Frank	Hinds
West, Douglas	Hinds
Williams, Lorraine	Hinds
Wood, Terry	Hinds
Zachry, Betsy Dawn	Hinds
Solomon, Catherine	Itawamba
Thompson, Chester Coy	Jackson
Pugh, Bobby	Jasper
Andrews, Willie Jean	Jones
Dement, Luther	Jones
Moore, James Coleman	Jones
Shaidnagle, Ella	Jones
Shaidnagle, Joe	Jones
Faine, Bobbie Sue	Kemper
Higgins, Larry Bernard	Lamar
McHugh, Wanda Joyce	Lauderdale
Mitchell, Jimmy	Lauderdale
Carlock, Nancy Gale	Lee
Upchurch, Robert Taylor	Leflore
Case, Doyle	Lincoln
Dunn, Paula Joyce	Lincoln
Reed, Ada Katheryn	Lincoln
Reed, Kenneth	Lincoln
Smith, Benjamin	Lincoln
Smith, Tommy	Lincoln
Boyd, Billy	Lowndes
Luoma, Lynn Lanier	Madison
Ramsay, Lee Y.	Marion
O'Neal, Michael	Monroe
Jones, Hubert David	Neshoba
Lackey, Marion Arnold	Neshoba
Mulholland, Kay Frances	Neshoba
Yates, Nancy Lee	Neshoba
Beard, William Savelle	Newton
Bishop, Joe	Newton
Douglas, Clydelia	Newton
Duke, George Michael	Newton
Hemphill, Wayne	Noxubee
Floyd, Rebecca Ann	Panola
Lumpkin, Julia Faye	Pearl River
Breland, Faye Allen	Perry
Robinson, Doris Anna	Perry
Robinson, Charlie White	Perry
Jackson, Finley, Jr.	Pike
McEwen, Judy	Pike
Strickland, Dianne	Pike
Wilson, Tommie Laverne	Pike
Davis, Thomas Lewis, Jr.	Quitman
Anderson, Dan Henry	Rankin

Anderson, Myra Sybil	Rankin
Davis, Johnny Ray	Smith
Miller, Jessie Mae	Tate
Jennings, Brenda	Tippah
Busby, Frankie Lee	Tunica
Goins, Tommie Leuann	Union
Roberts, George Allen	Washington
Collins, Clinton Gary	Wayne
Beck, Jim Tom	Webster
Wood, Daniel	Winston
Wood, David	Winston
Wood, Larry	Winston
Burke, Frances Laverne	Yalobusha
Warrington, Herman Ray	Yazoo

SCHOOL FOR NEGROES

Capers Avenue at Green Street

Jackson, Mississippi

This unit of the Mississippi School for the Blind offers the same academic and vocational courses as the school for white students. It is under the supervision of the Principal, Mrs. Martha Foxx, who transferred from the Piney Woods School in 1951 with thirty-five Negro girls and boys, and who is qualified by education and experience for the duties to which she has been assigned. The teachers who are associated with her make up a faculty which compares favorably with any Negro School for the Blind in the nation.

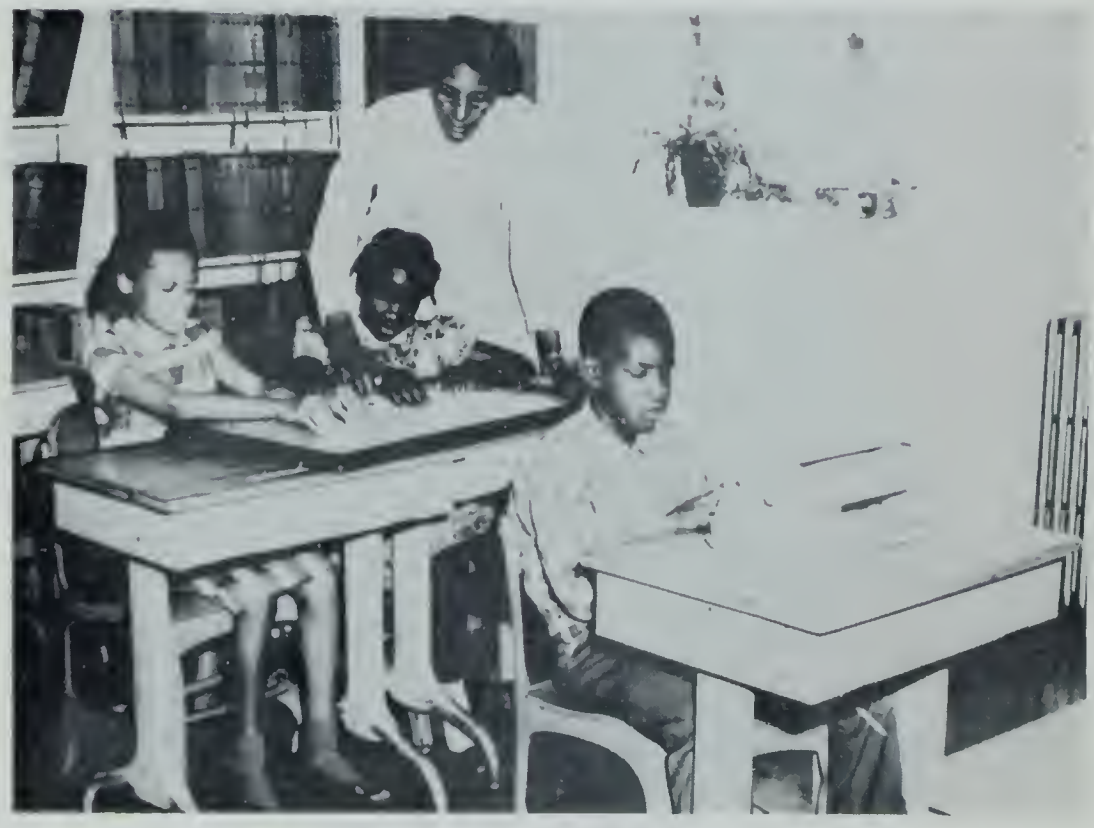
With an enrollment which has now grown to 80, additional facilities were needed. A new building, to be built in 1961-1962, will consist of a girls' dormitory, a homemaking department, and a shop.

Negro

Bradley, Aaron	Adams
Foster, Sears Michael	Adams
Foster, Walker	Adams
Ridley, Mary Ann	Adams
Griham, Sammie	Amite
Leflora, Dolois	Bolivar
Myrick, Lorane	Bolivar
Woods, Elvin	Bolivar
Jones, Holitan	Chickasaw
Baldwin, James, Jr.	Choctaw
Robinson, A. D.	Choctaw
Davis, Donzell, Jr.	Coahoma
Legins, L. T.	Coahoma
Penerman, Robert J.	Coahoma
Pierce, La Morris	Coahoma
Thomas, Ruby Louise	Coahoma
Dabney, Wallace	Copiah
Nunnery, Mae Katherine	Copiah
Booth, Francis Louise	Covington
Magee, Ralph	Covington
Warren, Lafayette	Forest
Montgomery, Mable L.	Harrison
Montgomery, Paul	Harrison
Moore, Jessie, Jr.	Harrison
Baker, Jessie Mae	Hinds
Brown, Marguerite M.	Hinds
Carter, A. E.	Hinds
Catching, Willie Mary	Hinds
Cotton, Edward D.	Hinds
Crawford, Gail	Hinds
Cry, Willie Gene	Hinds
Evans, Charles Earl	Hinds
Green, Earnest	Hinds
Ross, Dwight	Hinds
Smith, Beaulah	Hinds
Stokes, Gwendolyn	Hinds
Taylor, Robert Lee	Hinds
White, Barbara Ann	Hinds
White, Patrica Ann	Hinds
Saffold, Dorothy Mae	Holmes
Scarborough, Willie David	Issaquena
Turner, Jerry W.	Jackson
Williams, Ezekiel	Jackson
Trotter, Angie Pearl	Jasper
Cook, William	Lafayette
Woodall, Shirley Ann	Lafayette
Hardy, Samuel	Lauderdale

Hopson, Beautrice	Lauderdale
Perry, Marshall, Jr.	Lauderdale
Ramsey, Clara Mae	Lauderdale
Edwards, Essie Lee	Leake
Ammon, Roger	Leflore
Miller, Willie	Leflore
Stamps, Robert Earl	Leflore
Gordon, Catherine	Noxubee
Glover, Velton	Panola
Mangrum, Juluis	Panola
McPhearson, Annie Rine	Pontotoc
Price, Lanette	Prentiss
Neal, Thelma Louise	Quitman
Jackson, John Hilbert	Rankin
Jackson, Robert	Rankin
Holmes, Omie Jean	Scott
Millsaps, Flourine	Sharkey
Duckworth, Helen Ray	Smith
Diming, Clarence	Tallahatchie
Crawford, Dorothy Nell	Tate
Herron, Roger	Tate
Brown, Fred Lee	Warren
Hargro, Joseph	Warren
Arnold, Eva Faye	Washington
Howard, Dorothy Jean	Washington
Johnson, Dorothy	Washington
Johnson, Georgia Mae	Washington
Lockett, James	Washington
Morris, Velma Lee	Washington
Pitts, Georgia L.	Washington
Ivy, Prince, Jr.	Webster
Dixon, Elvin Martin	Wilkinson
Cooper, Lillian	Winston
White, Sybel	Winston
Horton, Lucy Mae	Yalobusha
Schaffer, L. J.	Yazoo

LIBRARY



"Reading" and "Writing"

HOMEMAKING AND CRAFT

RECREATION

MUSICAL TRAINING IN PIANO, VOICE,
CHORAL WORK, AND BAND